

NEWSLETTER

www.governorknowles.org



\$17,300 Raised for Tie Systems & Fire Rings

The Friends is working to make sure the new Trade River Campground is safe and secure by paying for and installing horse tie systems and fire rings for each of the 41 campsites. Estimated cost for the tie systems and fire rings is \$22,000.

We held two fun events this summer with proceeds going into the campground pot. The first was a "Saddle Up for the Forest" ride held in June that raised over \$900. Proceeds from the Just for Fun Show in September were \$1,300. In addition, we have received grants totaling \$14,000, including:

- AnnMarie Foundation of Phillips Plastics - \$450
- Wisconsin State Horse Council - \$2,000
- Wisconsin Stewardship Friends - \$11,500

On top of the grants and fundraisers, we have received donations from individuals and saddle clubs of more than \$1,160. All totaled we've raised over \$17,300. That leaves us with only \$4,700 to go!

What Can You Do?

Make a Donation - Your donations go directly to buy fire rings and materials for tie systems so that your horses are safe while you enjoy an evening around the campfire after a long days' ride.

Check Out Our New Website

www.governorknowles.org

Tips for Riding the Forest

Did you know you can ride the Forest all winter? With snow piled on tree branches and the rivers still running, it may be the most magical time of year.

Thank You.....

Hi, my name is Patti Lehmann and I am currently the President of the Friends group, and you might say the instigator in getting the organization started. Its now been almost five years since the inception of the Friends group and I would like to give you a little history of why and how the organization was started and express a huge thank you to all of you who have been so helpful and supportive.

I was born and raised, and still live on family land located about a mile south of the southern tip of the Governor Knowles State Forest.

As kids we rode our horses everywhere, the private land was mostly farms and the neighbors didn't mind you riding across their land. Road riding was fine because the roads were still gravel and there was a lot less traffic. Back then we didn't care much if there were state parks and forests with public horse trails because we could ride anywhere.

Well, as the years have gone by and the land is getting split up into smaller parcels. The roads are now mostly blacktop, and the traffic is going much faster, I realized that the places we had always ridden were very quickly disappearing. So now those horse trails on public lands have become much more important.

I guess I may have taken it for granted that those trails are even there, and if it wasn't for the involvement of some intuitive horse people some years back the horse trails on Governor Knowles State Forest may not have been here today.

This is why I feel it is so important for the horse community to get involved and have a voice, and that is why five years ago I made a few phone calls to some of the horse people in the area and asked them if they would be interested in forming some type of organization to help preserve horse trails in the area. And now five years later with over a 100 members here we are today "The Equestrian Friends of Governor Knowles State Forest, Inc."

Thank You!

New Campground Well Underway

The new Trade River Horse Campground in Governor Knowles State Forest is well under construction and should be ready in 2008. With 41 campsites, this long-awaited facility will provide Wisconsin's vibrant horse community with great access to the Forest's 40+ miles of equestrian trails.

The new site will be on the south side of Evergreen Road west of 300th Street. That is just west of the current campground and Old Settlers Cemetery.

DNR contractors began work this summer digging a new well, putting in toilet facilities and laying out roads and parking pads. After letting the excavation settle over the winter work will begin again in late spring to seed the area, install tie systems and other finishing touches.

Help Wanted

Come help us install more tie lines at the Trade River Campground.

We could really use your good looks, personality and muscle power!

October 27, 2007

10:00 to 2:00

Trade River Campground

2976 Evergreen Ave (270th Avenue)

Please bring whatever tools you have such as post hole diggers, shovels, saws, wrenches, etc.

It would be awesome if you could RSVP.

Give me a call if you have any questions.

Lisa Doerr

715-557-0384 - cell

It's That Time Again!!

Nothing happens without support from people like you who love to ride in the Forest. Please help us continue to enhance and protect this remarkable jewel. **Donate today!**



Cut Here

Equestrian Friends of Governor Knowles State Forest, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Individual \$10.00
- Family \$15.00
- Sponsor \$25.00

Membership and General Information

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone# _____

Email Address _____

Write: _____

Equestrian Friends of GKSF
PO Box 503
Cushing, WI 54006

Or Call:
Patti Lehmann 715-483-3575
Ron Baillargeon 715-247-3749